

VZCZCXRO9011  
PP RUEHGR  
DE RUEHWN #0158 0671936  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 071936Z MAR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6208  
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1883  
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL  
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J5 MIAMI FL  
RUEHCV/USDAO CARACAS VE

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 000158

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EEB/IFD/OMA-SNOW AND FIGUEROA  
DEPT FOR WHA/EPSC-MAIER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [XL](#)

SUBJECT: FISCAL TRANSPARENCY IN DOMINICA

REF: STATE 16737

¶1. (u) The Government of Dominica practices fiscal transparency by making its national budget publicly available on an annual basis. The government does this by announcing the budget in an open forum of parliament annually and doing a budgetary review in parliament at the end of the fiscal year. Also, the budget is open for public scrutiny through its budgetary offices, and available on the government website. The publicly-available data are generally accurate and meaningful and include all revenues and expenditures. Dominica has not volunteered for the IMF to report on the country's compliance with standards and codes covering fiscal transparency.

¶2. (u) The relevant laws governing fiscal transparency in Dominica have been entered into force in Chapter Five of the Constitution at independence, in the form of a "Chapter on Finance of the Constitution with Authorization of Expenditure from Consolidated Fund by appropriation and Authorization by Expenditure in advance of appropriation." The constitution went into effect on November 3rd, 1978. Dominica updated their laws by promulgating "The Finance and Administration Act of 1974". These laws are adequate and are actively implemented.

¶3. (u) Although USAID is active in the Eastern Caribbean, it currently does not fund programs supporting fiscal transparency or good governance. The Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC) is available to 19 Caribbean countries to assist these countries to achieve their macroeconomic, fiscal, and monetary policy objectives. This program operates as a UNDP project with the IMF serving as the executive agency. It is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, the Inter-American Development Bank, Ireland, the IMF, the UK Department for International Development, the UNDP, the EU, and the World Bank.

OURISMAN